

## HERICK ON BUYING OF VOTES

MAY BE BUD DOWN HERE, BUT IS WORSE UP THE STATE.

Glance at Depey and the \$400,000 Campaign Fund—He's for the Bill to Stop It—Cooper Union Meeting Agrees—Cheers Also for Municipal Ownership.

The mass meeting at Cooper Union last night, called by the Citizens' Union, the Reform Club and the People's Institute to protest against various so-called grab bills in the Legislature, threatened at times to become a municipal ownership feast. John Ford, who has a boomlet for Mayor on a municipal ownership platform, was one of the speakers, and the presence of municipal ownership nuts in the audience in great numbers seemed to be his liking. Some of the other speakers seemed to be rather surprised.

The meeting was called to discuss several bills, among them being Senator Cassidy's Niagara Power bill, Senator Goodsell's bill to permit railroads to abandon routes and validating an East River tunnel franchise and the Mortgage Tax bill.

R. Fulton Cutting, who has been long enough to get the meeting started, and then departed, just in time to escape the municipal ownership stampede. He surprised some in the audience by coming to the defence of the legislators. He said the fault wasn't with them; it was with the organizations.

"The legislators don't get any money either at Albany or at Washington," said Mr. Cutting.

"The hall they don't," interjected one man in the audience.

Mr. Cutting went on to say that such mass meetings were necessary to make the Legislature behave.

"It is getting more and more amenable to public opinion," he said. "When I was up at Albany last I asked a friend of mine in the Senate if it was true that the Senate was getting to be more amenable to public opinion. 'It is,' he said, 'and it's the independent vote that's doing it.'"

There were loud snickers at the James Lehman talk about the route abandonment bill and the bill reviving the old tunnel franchise from Forty-second street to Queens.

"The reason why these people go to Albany," he said, "is the desire to obtain these franchises in perpetuity. I am not a municipal ownership man. I still belong to the large class that have determined whether the arguments on one side or the other, but unless the public service corporations restrain themselves, unless the members of the Legislature cease to be their tools, the example of Chicago may be followed here."

At the first mention of municipal ownership there was a howl and when the speaker mentioned Chicago there was a regular Cooper Union demonstration. It lasted for several minutes. When it subsided Mr. Lehman said: "But I hope it won't be necessary to force upon us that issue."

John Ford declared in his first sentence that he was for municipal ownership. He got the ground up. A whoop encouraged him to go on and take his customary fall out of the Rapid Transit Commission, which he called a "grand old thing" that had given the subway to Belmont.

Mr. Ford said every Tammany Senator had voted against the Elzberg bill, which provided in a measure for municipal ownership. "What are you going to do?" he asked.

"Hang 'em!" yelled the crowd. Mr. Ford said that Mr. Belmont could explain how it happened the bill was defeated.

"Twenty-four hours before it was voted on," he said, "there were votes to spare in favor of it. But then the Tammany machine from a distinguished ex-statesman travelling in Europe, and orders from another politician in this city lined up the Tammany men. Let them vote."

This resulted in many small rows, and Thompson & Dundee asked the police of the East Fifty-first street station for aid. Twenty policemen were on duty at the Hippodrome all day. They had their hands full with the crowds and the speculators.

When the speculators found they couldn't buy tickets at the box office they held up lucky purchasers outside the building and bought tickets from them by giving a slight advance on the ticket price.

The speculators offered fancy prices for tickets for the opening to-morrow night and obtained some seats from persons who had bought them at the box office. The seats for to-morrow night have all been sold.

**RURAL PASTORS REBEL**  
Against Old Tendencies in Methodist Appointments—Talk on Tainted Girls.

The Methodist clergy in the up State districts who are in rebellion against established conditions in the New York Conference are awaiting with interest a decision upon a plan submitted this morning by Presiding Bishop Hamilton, on a request for the appointment of a committee on ministerial rights, to consist of a member from each of the four presiding elders' districts, to advise with the Bishop and his cabinet about the preaching appointments.

A report presented yesterday by Chancellor Day of Syracuse University from a special committee predicted serious embarrassments if such a committee were appointed.

"Evil conditions have grown up," the report said, "and they should be corrected. It is not, however, due to any collusion or purpose on the part of the conference, but to a tendency. There is great difficulty in leaving the way open for the ascent of younger men, who are added to the ranks of the conference."

When Dr. Day said that salaries and locations should not be lines of division he was greeted with continued applause. He added: "We do not favor such a committee as we believe it would soon be a grievance committee."

He urged delay, declaring that the committee plan seemed to him to be a possibility of mischief. "No Bishop," he said, "can keep a good man down or up very long."

The Bishop is to decide the constitutionality of the proposal.

John E. Andrus, Mayor of Yonkers and Congress-elect, talked to the Conference yesterday about gifts, evidently denouncing the plan.

"It is not well to apply the microscope to gifts for benevolence," said Mr. Andrus. "I do not want where this matter will end. I am reminded of a comb of honey which I raised in my apiary. Shall I sulphurize my bees because they gathered that honey in fields purchased with tainted money. Let us be sensible and increase our endowments."

Yesterday afternoon's session was presided over by Bishop Andrus. It was reported that Bishop Hamilton was closeted with the presiding elders making up the list of pastoral appointments and that the list he made public some time this afternoon.

**SUNDAY BALL ON TRINITY LAND.**  
Magistrate Advises Police Not to Interfere—No One Near to Be Annoyed.

Detective McAvoy of the East Sixty-seventh street station went to the Yorkville police court yesterday and asked Magistrate Flammery if the police should take any action to prevent baseball games on Sundays at the grounds of the Pastime Athletic Club at the foot of East Seventy-ninth street.

The club has leased the grounds from the Trinity Church Corporation and pays a rental of \$1,200 a year, said the detective. "There was a ball game there yesterday. The tickets for admission are free, but programs are sold. The captain wants to know if he should get a summons for the president of the club, or if he should make arrests at the Sunday games."

The Magistrate asked if the games annoyed neighboring residents or if they could be seen from outside the club grounds. The detective said there were no residents in the immediate neighborhood nor could the games be seen from outside.

The Magistrate advised the police not to interfere.

When there was a plan to put another man in the United States Senate we heard that the chairman of a committee had gone to certain people and said: "We raised \$400,000 for your campaign in this State. This man must be kept in his place." He was. That was pretty near to being a sale of the Senatorship.

The State of New York, wasn't it? We don't want New York degraded to the extent some of the other States are, but we're drifting fast toward it.

Judge Herick said that the bill would check all this because it provided for publicity of all political contributions and expenditures, and also gave the right to any one who gave a bond of \$250 to make a charge of corruption, which must be investigated before an election was decided. If it was found that money had been used at all, he said, the election was lost to the side using it, no matter what the vote, and a candidate found guilty could not hold office for the next five years.

Judge Herick's speech and his explanation of the bill provided one of the loudest outbursts of cheering of the evening. A resolution declaring it the sense of the meeting that the bill should pass was adopted with a whoop.

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## PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Victor Herbert Fills a Gap—Secretary Moody at the Liberty—Cornell Night.

Victor Herbert led the orchestra at the New Fields Theatre last night, and will continue to do so the rest of this week. Max Hirschfeld, the regular leader, is ill with an affection of the eyes. Mr. Herbert wrote the music of the Fields show.

The Secretary of the Navy, William H. Moody, with four friends, one of whom was William H. Crane, the actor, occupied a box at the Liberty last night and saw "The Education of Mr. Pipp."

Frank McCann announced that the Savoy Theatre will reopen on Aug. 28 with Robert Edeson in "Strongheart." James K. Hackett will follow in "The Walls of Jericho," and next, Mrs. Mary Martin.

It will appear there, Mrs. Hackett will be managed by her husband after next season, when her contract with McKee expires.

Cornell students and alumni took possession of the Garden Theatre last night and had a high old time over "The College Widow." The theatre house was sold out.

To the Cornell men, and some of the characters in the plays were renamed to represent persons well known to the college men.

In aid of Auxiliary 18 of the Stony Wood Sanatorium, Mrs. Fiske gave a special matinee yesterday afternoon at the Manhattan Theatre of two of her own one act plays and an act of "Hedda Gabler."

The proceeds went to Stony Wood Sanatorium. There was a large audience.

The New York National League hall club, headed by Manager McGraw, is going to the Fourteenth Street Theatre to-night to see James J. Corbett in "Pals."

Little Williams, who for the last three years has been successfully touring the country in "The Shop Girl," produced a new play, "My Tommy Girl," last night at the Theatre, Baltimore. The author, Charles E. Blaney, is Miss Williams's manager. It is a musical comedy drama in four acts, and will be seen here at the Fourteenth Street Theatre early in May.

Henry B. Harris is to star Daniel Frawley in Richard Harding Davis's comedy drama "Ransom's Folly." In the territory not visited by Robert Edeson.

"A Case of Frenzied Finance" reopened last night at the Princess Theatre to a fairly large audience.

## HIPPODROME SEATS IN DEMAND.

\$30,000 Advance Sale for the First Two Weeks—Opening Night Sold Out.

The ticket sale began at the Hippodrome yesterday morning, and when the auditor counted up last night the result of the bookings for the first two weeks it was found that \$30,000 had been taken in. This is a marvelous advance sale.

The ticket buyers came early, and they came in droves. When the doors opened the ticket speculators, Fred Thompson and his staff of aides had rather expected the speculators, and for some time they have been going up and down the theatre line getting acquainted with the faces of the speculators. They spotted many yesterday and refused to let them in.

This resulted in many small rows, and Thompson & Dundee asked the police of the East Fifty-first street station for aid. Twenty policemen were on duty at the Hippodrome all day. They had their hands full with the crowds and the speculators.

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## FRANCHISES IN THIS CITY.

THE SENATE PASSES THE THREE ELZBERG BILLS.

They Take the Power to Grant Franchises From the Aldermen and Give It to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment—Assembly Advances One Bill.

ALBANY, April 10.—That public sentiment in New York city is thoroughly aroused over the methods of the New York city Board of Aldermen in its disposition of applications from corporations for franchises to use the public streets and highways of New York city was fully manifested in the State Senate to-night. The measures under discussion were the three bills of Senator Elzberg's, which have the object of stripping the Board of Aldermen of New York city of all power affecting the granting and regulation of public franchises and transferring this authority to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which is permitted to grant these franchises by a majority vote.

The bills were discussed for a long time in the Senate, but only Senators Elzberg and Grady took part. The bills were passed by a strict party vote of 35 to 13, with the exception that Senator McCarren, the Democratic leader of Brooklyn, voted for the measure.

The general contention was made in favor of the bills that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which comprises city officers elected at large, would be a more representative body to deal with the public franchise question in New York city and would be much less susceptible to outside considerations in voting upon such questions than is the Board of Aldermen, which is largely composed of men who are supreme in their own small districts, and consequently cannot be reached or aroused by public sentiment.

The Assembly also took up these bills, which were introduced by Assemblyman Stanley. They came up on the order of second reading, and the Democrats made such a vigorous protest against their advancement that only one bill was advanced to-night. The two other bills were laid aside until to-morrow.

According to Assemblyman Agnew (Rep., N. Y.), the Legislature will not be able to adjourn on April 29, but alone April 22, as contained in the resolution which passed the Assembly last week. He said the gas investigating committee, of which he is a member, will not be able to finish its work in time to get a report to the Legislature before the 29th. He also said that the investigation has brought out the fact that gas can be manufactured and sold at a good profit for 80 cents. The talk to-night was that the final adjournment of the Legislature might be delayed until May 5.

By a party vote the Assembly passed the Annual Supply bill, which provides for appropriation of nearly \$3,000,000. Minority Leader Palmer and Assemblyman Fuller (Dem., Kings) offered amendments which had a bearing on the claims of the Republicans in the campaign last fall.

Mr. Palmer's amendment struck out the item of \$170,000 to provide for deficiencies in the various State departments, calling attention to the fact that the Republicans last fall had boasted that there were no deficiencies.

Mr. Fuller's amendment was aimed at the lump sums allowed State officers in lieu of expenses, which he maintained were nothing but increases in salaries and amount to \$170,000 a year. The amendments were voted down.

The Assembly passed the bill which provides that no obstruction shall be placed on fire escapes on tenement houses in New York city. The bill also provides that fire escapes shall be properly connected with balconies with iron stairways, and that there shall be a goose neck ladder leading from the top balcony to the roof and an adequate door ladder from the lowest balcony leading to the ground.

No fire escape will be deemed lawful if located in an inner shaft or inner court whose doors are closed, or if the distance from the top of the shaft to the ground is less than fifteen feet, nor if located in an outer court the length of which exceeds thirty feet.

Senator Stevens's two bills, providing for semi-annual examinations by directors of banks and trust companies and requiring that communications from the banking superintendent in regard to the investigation or recommendations pertaining to the conduct of a bank or trust company shall be submitted by the officer receiving it to the board of directors or trustees of the bank or trust company, passed the Assembly.

Senator Fitzgerald introduced a bill providing for three cent fares on street surface railroads throughout the State.

**SENATOR O. H. PLATT WORSE.**  
His Condition Very Critical—Soon Summoned to His Residence.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 10.—Reports from the summer home of United States Senator Platt at Washington, Conn., tonight have it that the Senator is in a very critical condition. He has been ill for ten days with pneumonia. His condition is such that he is unable to get out of bed. He is being attended by Dr. Eugene H. Porter, who is a physician of New York city, and Dr. Thomas Franklin Smith, who is a physician of New Haven.

Dr. Porter discussed the problems of homeopathy, and Dr. Thomas Franklin Smith spoke of his progress in this country.

Dr. Porter W. Sheild delivered an ode written by him for the occasion. The toastmaster was Dr. H. Worthington Paige.

**Keep Hahnemann's 150th Birthday.**  
The New York Homoeopathic Materia Medica Society commemorated with a dinner at the Hotel Astor last night the 150th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Hahnemann. Many women were there.

The only speaker not a physician was Senator Rudolph F. Halse of New Jersey, whose subject was "A Layman's Appreciation of Hahnemann and Homoeopathy."

Dr. John L. Moffat spoke of Hahnemann's life and influence. Dr. Eugene H. Porter discussed the problems of homeopathy, and Dr. Thomas Franklin Smith spoke of his progress in this country.

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**HOUSE COLLAPSES.**  
Women Help in Work of Rescuing Six Buried Workmen.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., April 10.—Six workmen were buried under the debris of a three story frame house in South Fourth avenue which collapsed this afternoon while dozens of people were passing on the sidewalk. Women joined the rescuing party. They dragged out planks and helped to clear the way for the police. None of the workmen was much hurt. The structure belonged to Frank Eli, Italian interpreter of the Court of Special Sessions, who was trying to raise it so as to place a store on the ground floor.

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